

Tenneco Minerals
A Tenneco Company

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August 27, 1992

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MINERALS PROGRAM
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DIVISION OF
OIL GAS & MINING

Mr. Lowell P. Braxton
Associate Director, Mining
Division of Oil, Gas and Mining
355 West North Temple
3 Triad Center, Suite 350
Salt Lake City, Utah 84180

RE: Conditional Notice of Tentative Approval, Tenneco Minerals Company - Utah,
Goldstrike Mine, M/053/005, Washington County, Utah

Dear Lowell:

Tenneco has reviewed your letter dated July 14, 1992 regarding conditional notice of tentative approval of the permit amendment. We offer the following clarifications to your responses. We have incorporated these responses into the Revised NOI and are transmitting replacement text and drawings with this letter. Please replace the text and drawings you currently have with those enclosed.

R647-4-106.2 Operation Plan - DWH

Tenneco acknowledges that ultimate design details and decommissioning standards for Leach Pad # 3 will need to be approved by the Utah Department of Environmental Quality, Division of Water Quality (DWQ). Once decommissioning/effluent standards for the new facility have been established by the DWQ for this facility, they will be forwarded to the DOGM. The BLM is granting approval of the leach pad conditional upon these same conditions and requests.

R647-4-107 Operational Practices - HWS/DWH

107.2 and 107.3 - Drainages and Erosion Control

Tenneco has revised the section of the revised NOI to provide additional information of the construction of the low-flow crossings. Please see Section 4.9 in the text. The crossings will be designed to contain all the runoff from the 100-yr, 24-hr storm event. The crossings will be designed so that all runoff flowing across the road will be contained within the riprapped channel constructed on the outslope of each crossing.

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Tenneco has updated Drawings GS-016, GS-019, and GS-022 to reflect the realignment of the Covington haul road and pit. Almost all of the facilities on Drawing GS-016 east of and including Covington Pit are "as-built" configurations. Because of these changes to the haul road and geometry of the pit, the number of disturbed acres has changed from 382 to 387 acres. The text, Form MR-LMO, and the surety have been revised to reflect these new acreages.

Tenneco will install trash racks on all culverts less than 3 feet in diameter.

R647-4-111.2 Reclamation Practices, Natural Stream Channels - DWH

Due to changes in the alignment of the haul road, and Tenneco's desire to leave the haul road intact after mining ceases, the number of proposed low-flow crossings has been reduced to three (1U, 3B, and 4B). As stated above, the low-flow crossings would remain in there as-built configurations with little or no modification due to the fact that they would be originally constructed to pass the runoff from the 100-year, 24-hour precipitation event. The text has been clarified to reflect this.

Tenneco acknowledges the Division's request to adjust the surety calculations to reflect anticipated costs under the "worst-case" scenario for removal of the low-flow crossings on public lands. Section 8.4 of the text has been revised to reflect the cost of removing the fill material from the low-flow crossings and the culverts.

Tenneco acknowledges the Division's decision to require culverts in drainages where the runoff from the 100-yr 24-hr storm event exceeds 100 cfs.

R647-4-113.3 Surety - AAG

As stated above, the surety estimate has been revised to account for the "worst-case scenario" of removing the fill material from all drainages (low-flow crossings and culverts). The new estimated cost for the reclamation activities is \$2,067,000. Tenneco believes the difference between this estimate and the bond amount already posted (\$2,000,000) is well within reasonable limits.

The discrepancy between the linear feet of the haul road to be regraded has been cleared up. The drawings and text are now in agreement; the total is now 4,000 feet. This change from the previous drawings (3,400 ft) is due to realignment of the road and the additional regrading to occur near drainage 3B. We apologize for the confusion on this.

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R647-4-110.2 Reclamation Plan - AAG

Tenneco has discussed this matter with the BLM and have their agreement that this would be a desirable option. However, there are remaining issues to be resolved with both the BLM and the County before an agreement is reached. We will keep the Division apprised of the status of any agreements that are reached.

If you have any questions, feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

Jim Smith by Edna J.

Jim A. Smith
Mine Manager

Enclosure

cc: E. Lips/JBR